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Mr. Swarth's paper is well worthy of detailed study and is a noteworthy contribution to west coast ornithology.— W. S.

Mathews' The Austral Avian Record.[1]— This journal is issued at irregular intervals in connection with the Austral Avian Museum, Watford, Herts, England, by Mr. Gregory M. Mathews. It is intended to comprise such notes as require immediate attention in connection with the author's 'Birds of Australia' now in course of publication. Descriptions of new forms, notes on nomenclature and any other interesting matter relating to the Australian avifauna will be included. The present number comprises notes on Australian Cuckoos in which the nomenclature of all the forms is discussed, *Owenavis* and *Neochalcites* appear as new genera and ten new species and subspecies are proposed. A second note is a useful table of the dates of issue of the parts of Lear's 'Psittacidæ' and Müller's 'Verhandelingen over de Naturlijke Geshiedenes. Land-en Volkenkunde.' We do not think that Mr. Mathews' proposal to ignore Lesson's group or "race" names which have always been given recognition as genera will meet with the approval of ornithologists, nor do we consider that the authors of the International Code ever intended that article 2 should be interpreted as rejecting group names not explicitly designated by their proposers as genera or subgenera.— W. S.

Parkins' Record of Sales of the Great Auk and its Eggs.[2]— This is an interesting pamphlet containing a record of sales of specimens of the Great Auk or its eggs at public auction in Great Britain from 1806 to 1910. The early history of the specimens is included so far as it is known, and the character of this information will be seen by consulting Col. Thayer's article on p. 208 of this number of 'The Auk.' There are several interesting illustrations.— W. S.

Jacobs' The American Bird House Journal for 1912.[3]— Under this title Mr. J. Warren Jacobs proposes to issue an annual publication in continuation of his well known series of papers dealing with the history of

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[1] The Austral Avian Record. A Scientific Journal devoted primarily to the Study of the Australian Avifauna. Vol. I, No. 1. Issued in connection with the Austral Avian Museum, Watford, Herts, England. Editor, Gregory M. Mathews, Price 1/6 Net. Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. January 2nd, 1912.

[2] The Great Auk. A Record of Sales of Birds and Eggs by Public Auction in Great Britain, 1806–1910. With Historical and Descriptive Notes and five Plates. (Extra Paper to Part 6, of Vol. I., Hastings and East Sussex Naturalist.) By Thomas Parkin, M. A., F. L. S., F. Z. S., (Member of the British Ornithologists' Union). Hastings, Burfield & Pennells Ltd. MCMXI. (Price two shillings.)

[3] The American Bird House Journal for 1912, published by the Jacobs Bird House Co. Waynesburg Pa., pp. 95–141. Price, 25 cents.